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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/625,318	07/23/2003	Muzaffer Aktas	MCO-10602/08	7754
7590	03/17/2005			EXAMINER
Douglas L. Wathen Gifford, Krass, Groh, Sprinkle, Anderson & Citkowski, P.C. 280 North Old Woodward Ave., Ste. 400 Birmingham, MI 48009			SHAW, CLIFFORD C	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			1725	
DATE MAILED: 03/17/2005				

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/625,318	AKTAS, MUZAFFER	
	Examiner Clifford C Shaw	Art Unit 1725	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.
- 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 1-22 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) Claim(s) 1-22 is/are rejected.
- 7) Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) The drawing(s) filed on 23 July 2003 is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____ . |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date ____ . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: ____ . |

Detailed Action

1.) The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

2.) Claims 8-22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Aoki et al. (6,256,552). The patent to Aoki et al. (6,256,552) discloses a weld gun parameter specification system and a computer based system with features claimed, including: a weld gun parameter database as shown in connection with the data table in figure 5 and discussed in columns 5-8; a computer based method for specifying a weld gun configuration as shown in figure 14 wherein the parameters associated with the welding gun are selected. The independent claims differ from Aoki et al. (6,256,552) in calling for a computer readable medium containing code for the method of weld gun parameter specification (claim 8) and in calling for submission of a weld gun model to the user (claim 14). The dependent claims differ in calling for a printer and in calling for including price information in the database. These differences do not patentably distinguish over the prior art. In regard to claim 8, it is considered obvious that the program in Aoki et al. (6,256,552) be stored on a computer readable medium, as this is a standard technique for providing a computer program to a computer. In regard to claim 14, it is considered obvious that the gun selection routine in figure 14 of Aoki et al. (6,256,552) include a display of results to the user, based on routine program design considerations. In regard to the

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dependent claims, it would have been obvious that the computer of Aoki et al. (6,256,552) include any conventional output devices, including a printer. It would have been obvious to have stored any important tool parameters in the database of Aoki et al. (6,256,552), including price.

3.) Claims 1-7 are allowable over the prior art of record. None of the prior art of record teaches or suggests a method of specifying the design of a welding gun with the steps claimed, particularly the steps associated with menu selection of available and not available options and the step of calculating performance parameters as claimed.

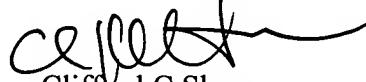
4.) The patents to Niwa (5,798,928) and to Wampler,II (6,847,922) and the pre-grant publication no. 2002/0040291 are cited to show prior art computer based tool design approaches.

- Any inquiry concerning this communication should be directed to Clifford C Shaw at telephone number 571-272-1182. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday of the first week of the pay period and on Tuesday through Friday of the second week of the pay period.

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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Mr. Thomas G. Dunn, can be reached at 571-272-1171. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Clifford C Shaw
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 1725

March 15, 2005